

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1           **Claim 1 (currently amended):** Assembly comprising a  
2     clamping device (1) and a fiber (2) held by said device  
3     (1) and comprising a rigid and brittle core (24)  
4     surrounded by a mechanically deformable cladding (22),  
5     said clamping device being adapted to resist a tension  
6     force having a value exceeding 5 N exerted along a  
7     longitudinal axis of said fiber (2) ~~possibly being~~  
8     ~~subjected to at least one mechanical stress~~, said  
9     clamping device (1) comprising several jaws (4)  
10    distributed around a main axis (6) of this device (1) and  
11    occupying a clamped position, each jaw (4) comprising an  
12    inner surface (14, 114) composed of a central portion  
13    (16, 116) and two end portions (18, 20, 118, 120), said  
14    end portions (18, 20, 118, 120) being made so as to  
15    prolong the central portion (16, 116) by gradually moving  
16    away from the main axis (6) of said device (1),  
17    ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a section of the inner  
18    surfaces (14, 114) on any plane perpendicular to the main  
19    axis (6) of the device (1) is a closed line, and ~~in that~~  
20    wherein only part of each end portion (18, 20, 118, 120)

21 is in contact with the mechanically deformable cladding  
22 (22) of the fiber (2).

1           **Claim 2 (currently amended):** Assembly according to  
2 claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein for each jaw (4),  
3 the end portions (118, 120) are surfaces for which a  
4 section defined by any plane passing through the main  
5 axis (6) of the device (1) is a line segment.

1           **Claim 3 (currently amended):** Assembly according to  
2 claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein for each jaw (4),  
3 the end portions (18, 20) are surfaces for which a  
4 section defined by any plane passing through the main  
5 axis (6) of the device (1) is a curved line.

1           **Claim 4 (currently amended):** Assembly according to  
2 ~~any one of the above claims, characterized in that~~ claim  
3 1, wherein the inner surface (14, 114) of each jaw (4) is  
4 a surface with no sharp angle.

1           **Claim 5 (currently amended):** Assembly according to  
2 ~~any one of the above claims, characterized in that~~ claim  
3 1, wherein for each jaw (4), the inner surface (14) is a

4 surface for which a section defined by any plane  
5 perpendicular to the main axis (6) of the device (1) is  
6 an arc of circle with a radius greater than ~~the~~ a nominal  
7 outside radius of the mechanically deformable cladding  
8 (22) .

1 **Claim 6 (currently amended):** Assembly according to  
2 ~~any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that wherein~~  
3 the inner surface (114) of each jaw (4) is a surface for  
4 which a section defined by any plane perpendicular to the  
5 main axis (6) of the device (1) is a line segment.

1 **Claim 7 (currently amended):** Assembly according to  
2 ~~any one of the above claims, characterized in that claim~~  
3 1, wherein the jaws (4) of said device (1) are metallic  
4 jaws.

1 **Claim 8 (currently amended):** Assembly according to  
2 ~~any one of the above claims, characterized in that claim~~  
3 1, wherein each jaw (4) also comprises an outer surface  
4 (10) in the form of a conical portion, each outer surface  
5 (8) cooperating with a complementary conical inner  
6 surface (12) provided on a jaw support (8) of said device

7       (1) .

1               **Claim 9 (currently amended):** Assembly according to  
2       ~~any one of the above claims, characterized in that claim~~  
3       1, wherein the fiber is an optical fiber.

1               **Claim 10 (currently amended):** Assembly according to  
2       ~~any one of the above claims, characterized in that it can~~  
3       ~~be used claim 1, wherein the assembly is adapted for use~~  
4       in a strain gage and/or in a Bragg grating optical fiber  
5       sensor.